

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-20 in the application. In the present preliminary amendment, the Applicants have canceled Claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer and have added new Claims 21-40. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 21-40 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103

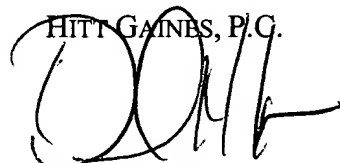
The Examiner rejected Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) or §103(a) as being anticipated or rendered obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,233,691 to Atkinson. These rejections are now moot since Claims 1-20 have been canceled. Regarding pending Claims 21-40, Atkinson neither teaches nor suggests operating a reconfigurable circuit including determining a transition rate of at least one node located within the reconfigurable circuit and altering a power characteristic applied to at least a portion of the reconfigurable circuit based on a comparison between the transition rate and a predetermined operating range as recited in independent Claims 21, 28 and 34. Atkinson is directed to reducing the power consumption of a battery powered computer system. (*See* column 1, lines 13-16.) Even assuming that the computer system is a reconfigurable circuit, the Applicants do not find where Atkinson teaches or suggests determining a transition rate of a node of the computer system. Thus, the Applicants also do not find where Atkinson teaches or suggests altering a power characteristic to a portion of the computer system based on a comparison involving a transition rate of a node of the computer system. On the contrary, Atkinson reduces power consumption by monitoring events of a computer system, such as cache hits and misses, and, based on the events determines if a clock frequency to the computer system needs to be reduced. (*See* column 2, lines 40-45 and column 4, line 51 to column 5, line 5.) Atkinson, therefore, does not teach or suggest each element of Claims 21-40.

II. Conclusion

In view of the amendment and foregoing remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 21-40.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication to Deposit Account No. 08-2395. The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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